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PUI Section C

Homework 8 Write-Up

**Part 1:**

The purpose of my website is to educate people about the following 3 mental health disorders: Major Depressive Disorder, Bipolar Disorder, and Schizophrenia. My aim is to de-stigmatize these disorders by emphasizing that they are just a different way of perceiving the world and that the sufferers cannot help what they feel. I show users information about the physical/mental symptoms, neurology, and subjective experience of each disorder, using animated fictional characters “suffering” with each disorder to guide the user through their experiences. At the end of each section, the site sheds its fictional narrative and presents real-world statistics as well as quotes from actual sufferers. This was done in order to communicate to users that these disorders happen to real people, not just fictional characters. My target audience is people who are not very knowledge/aware of mental health disorders, such as teenagers and kids—I used fun illustrated characters, engaging & interactive large animations, and simplistic descriptions to make the topic more approachable and interesting.

**Part 2:**

* Navigation Bar [all pages]
  + **Interaction type:** Users can click ondifferent topics in the navigation bar in order to visit different sections of the website.
  + **How to reproduce it:** Click on the different nav bar headings on the home page (*haroldhome.html*).
* Clickable characters [home page]
  + **Interaction type:** Users can hover over each character on the home page, and the characters will become animated and fill with color. Further, a label will appear underneath each character to indicate what disease he/she is suffering with. If clicked, the user can navigate to the website section describing the associated disorder.
  + **How to reproduce it:** Hover over the characters on the bottom of the website home page (*haroldhome.html*). Click on the character whose disorder you would like to learn more about.
* Automatic Scrolling via button press [disorder education pages]
  + **Interaction type:** Page will automatically scroll down to next section within each disorder education page when the bottom arrow is clicked. The pages are organized in an “infinite scrolling” format.
  + **How to reproduce it:** Click the large downward arrow at the bottom of each section within the disorder education pages (*depressionscroll.html, schizoscroll.html, bipolarscroll.html*).
* Symptom Reveal [“what it feels like” section within each disorder education page]
  + **Interaction type:** User can hover over different body parts of each character. When user hovers, selected body part outlines in yellow and a description of related symptoms will appear in the box on the left. User can also view all body regions and related symptoms at once by clicking the “view all symptoms” button.
  + **How to reproduce it:** On the id=“feeling” section of each disorder education page, move your cursor over different body parts to see associated symptoms. Click “view-all” if you want to see everything at once.
    - **Note:** This functionality is disabled once the screen gets too small to effectively engage in this interaction (phone-size). Instead, permanent labels appear over each body part and a description of associated symptoms is shown beneath the character.
* Brain region Reveal [“In the brain” section within each disorder education page]
  + **Interaction type:** User can hover over different brain regions to see how the disorder affects each one. Each brain region that the user hovers over will be highlighted in a different color. User can also view all brain regions and related morphology at once by clicking the “view all brain regions” button.
  + **How to reproduce it:** On the id=“neuro” section of each disorder education page, move your cursor over different brain regions to see associated symptoms. Click “view-all” if you want to see everything at once.
    - **Note:** This functionality is disabled once the screen gets too small to effectively engage in this interaction(phone-size). Instead, permanent labels appear over each brain region and a description of neurology is shown beneath the character’s brain.
* Carousel [“in the real world” section within each disorder education page]
  + **Interaction type:** User can click through to see different quotes from people who experienced mental health disorders on the carousel. The carousel also runs through quotes automatically if user does not press anything.
  + **How to reproduce it:** Scroll down to the bottom of the id= “real-world” section of each education disorder page, and click the arrows on either side of the carousel to manually scroll through quotes.

**Part 3:**

Tool #1

* **Name of Tool:** Animation
* **Why you chose to use it?** I wanted the site to be fun and engaging for users. I thought animated by fictional characters would be a great way to do this. Animation made them feel more real and alive.
* **How you used it?** I used CSS built-in animation to change the stroke path on certain svg elements in order to make them mjove. For example, the depression character (Harold) has rain falling above him. I also used fadeToFast on the hoverable elements for a smooth transition in and out of visibility.
* **What it adds to your website?** Animations make the characters feel more real, which encourages empathy. I hope that this helps users put themselves in the shoes of those suffering with mental health disorders. Additionally, the hover animations make the site feel smoother and more professional.

Tool #2

* **Name of Tool:** Chart.js
* **Why you chose to use it?** I wanted to create donut charts that I could easily fill with data. Chart.js provided an easy way to do this.
* **How you used it?** I used chart.js to create donut charts on the id=”real-world” section of each disorder education page. These charts communicate statistics about each disorder. They animate when the user scrolls to them.
* **What it adds to your website?** The charts allow for a visual, easily digestible way communicate data. The fact that they animate for the user makes them feel more dynamic, as though they are updating in real-time. Hopefully, this will help users remember the information better.

Tool #3:

* **Name of Tool:** Bootstrap JS Library
* **Why did you choose to use it:** I wanted to incorporate on-click automatic scrolling into my website to make for more fluid navigation id between sections (instead of having to jump between multiple pages).
* **How you used it?** On the disorder education pages,I created an arrow at the bottom of each section that the user can click on to automatically scroll to the next section.
* **What it adds to your website?** The automatic scrolling enables the user to easily move between sections on each page. This makes the website less confusing to navigate, as there are not multiple screens that the user has to click through. This creates a more unified, fluid feel for the user. It also minimizes manual scrolling, which can be cumbersome.

**Part 4:**

I iterated on my homework 7 mockups quite minimally; since these mockups were very hi-fi, I had already fleshed out a lot of design issues and so I didn’t have to change much when I coded my site. I did, however, change the background color from pure black to a dark grey color to minimize strain on the eyes; I read that using pure black can make interfaces difficult to see.

**Part 5:**

I encountered issues trying to animate my characters, as I had never used CSS animation before. However, by looking up tutorials I was able to achieve the effect I wanted.

I also had trouble making the site responsive, as the brain/body part hover functionality became difficult when the screen was too small. I overcame this by disabling this functionality on mobile sized screens. Instead, permanent labels appear over each brain/body region and a description of neurology/symptoms is shown beneath the character.